

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claim 5 to correct improper multiple dependency and claim 3 to correct minor matters of English usage without changing claim scope. New claim 7 has been added to reflect the correction of the multiple dependency of claim 5.

Claim 1 has been objected to as being substantially a duplicate of claim 2. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection. Claim 1 recites a memory device storing a parts library data which includes nozzle designation data for designating a plurality of nozzle types as a designated suction nozzle for each of the electronic components. On the other hand, claim 2 recites a memory device storing a parts library data which includes nozzle designation data for designating a plurality of nozzle types as a designated suction nozzle for each of the electronic components and corresponding control data for the designated nozzle. In short, the memory device of claim 1 stores the nozzle designation data for each electronic component, and the memory device of claim 2 stores the nozzle designation data and the corresponding control data for the designated nozzle. The control data includes, for example, “speed data,” “pick-up retention time,” and “placement retention time,” which are related to the operation of the designated nozzle. See, for example, page 11, lines 3-12, of the specification and FIG. 6 of the application. On the other hand, the nozzle designation data is just the selection of more than one nozzles for the electronic component under mounting operation. See, for example, page 7, lines 21-29, of the specification and FIG. 5 of the application.

Claim 2 covers claim scope different from that of claim 1 and thus is not a duplicate of claim 1. Thus, the objection to claim 1 should be withdrawn.

The Examiner cites two portions, “Content” and “Language and Format,” from MPEP 608.01(b), which provide the basics of Abstract of a patent application, and states “Applicants is

reminded of the proper content and proper language and format of an abstract.” The Examiner did not formally object to the Abstract or point to any specific deficiency of the Abstract of this application. Nonetheless, applicant has amended the Abstract so that it contains less than 150 words.

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,606,785 (Kadohata). Applicant respectfully traverses this objection.

Claim 1 recites a memory device storing a parts library data which includes nozzle designation data for designating a plurality of nozzle types as a designated suction nozzle for each of the electronic components. Accordingly, the claimed memory device includes the nozzle designation data that designates for each of the electronic components at least two different types of suction nozzles. In the embodiment of FIG. 5 explained above, a first nozzle, MF01, and a second nozzle, MA06, are designated as proper suction nozzles for an electronic component, QFP100-0001-05000. Because of this multiple designation of suction nozzles for the same electronic component, the overall operation period of mounting electronic components is reduced since the number of the times the suction nozzles have to be changed is reduced. See, for example, page 16, lines 5-19, of the specification.

The Examiner contends that Kadohata’s mounting apparatus shown in FIGS. 1-5 of Kadohata teaches the claimed mounting apparatus. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Kadohata’s mounting apparatus operates according to the mount data shown in FIG. 3. First, two types of electronic components, AAA and AAB, are picked up by the same suction nozzle 3a, and then the following electronic components, ABC and ABD, are picked up by suction nozzles 3b and 3c, respectively. See, for example, column 3, lines 29-40, of Kadohata. The suction nozzles are aligned in the order of their use in the mounting operation for reducing the

time required for changing the suction nozzles. See, for example, column, 4, lines 8-13, of Kadohata. In other words, Kadohata's mounting apparatus may use the same suction nozzle for picking up more than one type of electronic components. On the other hand, the claimed mounting apparatus is configured to use one suction nozzle for picking up one electronic component and to use at least one additional suction nozzle for picking up the same electronic component.

Kadohata does not teach or suggest the claimed memory device that stores the claimed nozzle designation data. Claim 2 recites the same nozzle designation data as claim 1. Thus, the rejection of claims 1-5 should be withdrawn.

The remaining rejection relies on Kadohata and thus should be withdrawn as well because Kadohata does not teach or suggest the teachings for which it is cited.

The Examiner requested that applicant assign reference numerals to all the claim limitations. Applicant respectfully submits that he is under no duty to respond to this request because this request is not under Requests for Information pursuant to 37 CFR 1.105; even if it were, this request does not elicit the permissible type of information that can be requested under 37 CFR 1.105(a)(i)-(vii). In addition, applicant submits that the specification and claims are understandable to the extent that the Examiner understood the specification and claims enough to reject all the claims of this application under 35 USC 102(e) and 103(a).

In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge

the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to
Deposit Account No. 03-1952, referencing Docket No. 492322002000.

Respectfully submitted,

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